

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 FEAE-00 OPIC-03

CIEP-01 SAJ-01 OES-03 FPC-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 L-02 XMB-02 /074 W
----- 009548

R 131231Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6104

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG ETRD UR COMECON

SUBJECT: MEETING OF CEMA INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR
CONSTRUCTION OF ORENBURG NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

REF: MOSCOW 13623, PRAGUE 3118

1. SOVIET PRESS REPORTS FIRST MEETING IN MOSCOW JANUARY 9
OF "INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR COOPERATION IN CONSTRUCTION
OF NATURAL GAS PIPELINE FROM ORENBURG TO WESTERN FRONTIERS
OF USSR". MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SOVIET DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS M.A. LESECHKO WHO IS ALSO PERMANENT
SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE IN CEMA. TAKING PART IN MEETING WERE
ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES FROM BULGARIA, HUNGARY, GDR, POLAND,
ROMANIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY BY NAME WERE
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GDR DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RAUCHFUSS AND

CZECHOSLOVAK MINISTER OF METALLURGY J. SHIMON. OFFICIALS OF CEMA SECRETARIAT AND CEMA INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT BANK (IIB) ALSO TOOK PART.

2. MAIN AGENDA ITEMS OF MEETING WERE REPORTEDLY CONCERNED WITH ORGANIZATION OF CONSTRUCTION OF PIPELINE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENT REACHED AT CEMA SUMMIT MEETING AT SOFIA IN JUNE 1974.

3. COMMENT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING OF AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR A CEMA MULTILATERAL PROJECT IS AN UNUSUAL DEVELOPMENT AND INDICATES COMPLEX PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN ORENBURG CONSTRUCTION. UNLJ MULTI-LATERAL PROJECTS ON SOVIET TERRITORY, EE CEMA COUNTRIES (EXCEPT ROMANIA) WILL BE PROVIDING NOT ONLY EQUIPMENT BUT ALSO ENGINEERS AND CONSTRUCTIN WORKERS. PHENOMENON OF MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND POLES, BULGARIANS, CZECHS, HUNGARIANS AND EAST GERMANS ALL WORKING AT SAME TIME TO BUILD 2800 KILOMETER PIPELINE FOM URALS TO CARPATHO-UKRAINE WILL BE UNIQUE IN RECENT SOVIET HISTORY.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GAS PIPELINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW00426
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750012-0728
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750157/aaaabycb.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 13623, 75 PRAGUE 3118
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <16 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MEETING OF CEMA INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ORENBURG NATURAL GAS PIPELINE
TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, UR, COMECON
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006